

Eastern Montana Economic Development Authority
Commissioner Meeting
June 2, 2010, 7pm

Commissioners Present: Karol Zachmann, Brandon Schmidt, Chuck Lee

Commissioners Absent: Norton Walker, Carson Beach, Sharon Gookin

Guests:

May 5 Meeting Minutes: No quorum – cannot accept.

May Financial Report was provided. Checking account balance as of June 1, 2010 is \$70,337.30

Director's Report:

Renewable Energy Presentation – held Thursday, May 13th at Baker Senior Center. Provided in-depth information about small wind and residential solar energy options including machines, materials, costs, etc. Kathi Montgomery, DEQ Energy, also presented information about federal tax credits and low interest loans available for these systems. She asked me if we have gotten any further with geothermal research in Fallon County. I told her that we are concentrating on the housing project at this time. She agreed that when you have a viable project such as that going on, it's best to concentrate your time on it. That being said, I am collecting any current geothermal energy information that comes across my desk.

Keystone XL/TransCanada EIS Hearing – held Thursday, May 20th. Representatives from the State Department, MT DEQ, MT BLM, the contracted company who completed the study, and TransCanada participated in the panel. Community members were allowed to make public comments and those who spoke brought up some very well thought out questions/concerns. In my opinion, the panel heard the questions and answered them to the best of their ability. The Baker camp location has not been determined at this time. I met and talked with Bud Andersen who is a liaison contractor for TransCanada. He is very willing to meet with us – County, City, SMART, etc. – anytime we would like. We will set up a meeting after the camp location has been designated, which will be in the next couple of months.

Old Business:

Fill and Compaction – Spoke with Brandy Griffith today. She said they had talked about getting the dirt loaded yesterday. We are on their schedule for completing the job in the next couple of days.

Soils Test – the bore sites are staked out. Jeff will contact John Brosz today or tomorrow to find out when American Technical Services will be here to do the job.

State Building Permit – Jeff Fed Exed the plans to the state today. They will assess the plans to determine the fee, then contact me. Once the fee is paid, they will start the permitting process.

Invitation to Bid – Advertised in 6 area papers starting last Friday four times. Have received 4 requests for bid information.

Board Election Information – I spoke with Debbie Wyrick who said that we have acted within the law in the past. To change the date of election, she thinks, would take an amendment of the resolution. She would need to check in to this, and won't have time until August. The County does not run the school board election. Only primary and general elections are conducted by polling. All other county

run elections are conducted by mail. A liberal estimation by Debbie is that 15% of the ballots are returned. If the County did the mail election for us it would cost approximately \$750.00 for postage only, then there is the cost of supplies and the county employees' time. I spoke with Rich Batterman who said that we should advertise for commissioner openings for people to file a petition of candidacy which they have to do 75 days before the election. If nobody files a petition, the County Commissioners can appoint someone to fill a vacancy on the Port Authority board. They can do this anytime.

Other Old Business:

New Business:

At the meeting we had on May 24th, it was decided to change the name of the project from S.M.A.R.T. Housing to Frontier Apartments.

I have obtained a copy of the lease agreement that is used by the low-income housing units to use as a resource to complete a lease agreement for the Frontier Apartments.

Mission Statement: tabled due to lack of quorum

Executive Board of Commissioners: tabled due to lack of quorum.
Chairman –

Vice-Chairman –

Other New Business:

Next meeting is scheduled for June 17th at 7pm, SMART office.